

REMARKS

This application contains claims 1-392, the status of which is as follows:

(a) Claims 1-56, 67-68, 71-73, 75-77, 79-81, 83-124, 133-137, 139, 142-145, 149-151, 153-155, 158-162, 164-166, 169-224, 230-238, and 245-374 were canceled without prejudice in the first preliminary amendment in order to reduce excess claim fees. The Applicant may prosecute all or a portion of these claims in a continuation application.

(b) Claims 57-64, 66, 70, 74, 78, 82, 125-131, 138, 140-141, 147-148, 152, 156-157, 163, 167-168, 225-228, and 239-243 are as originally filed.

(c) Claims 65, 379, and 380 are currently amended to correct typographical errors.

(d) Claims 69, 132, 146, 229, 244, and 375-378 were previously presented.

(e) Claims 381-392 are new.

Claims 381-386 are supported in the description of Fig. 6 of the PCT as follows:

"Pressurized fluid is then introduced via first passageway 14, producing a larger pressure on the proximal face of piston head 30 than on the distal face of piston head 30, resulting in a net force acting to move piston head 30 distally. A sufficient net pressure force results in distal movement of piston head 30 along with elongate carrier 26 and a tool 79. Tool 79 may comprise an imaging device, a biopsy device, or other apparatus to be used in body lumen 20." (p. 46, lines 13-22);

Claim 387 is supported in the description of the PCT as follows: "A piston head 30 may be mounted on carrier 26. Piston head 30 may be inflatable, and as such may be constructed of any medically safe elastomeric material, such as but not limited to, a bladder or membrane made of polyurethane or silicone rubber, for example." (p. 42, lines 3-6); "Distal piston head 30 may then be gently inflated until it expands to the inner wall of body lumen 20." (p. 45, lines 10-11); "In an embodiment of the present invention, the techniques described herein for propulsion by creating a pressure difference are applied in a reverse manner to actively propel piston head 30 together with carrier 26 proximally, i.e., to withdraw system 10 from lumen 20. Pressurized fluid (e.g., air) from a fluid pressure source is introduced to the distal side of piston head 30, via a pressure-application tube passing through or around piston head 30." (p. 45, lines 20-25);

Claim 388 is supported in the description of the PCT as follows: "A piston head 30 may be mounted on carrier 26. Piston head 30 may be inflatable, and as such may be constructed of any medically safe elastomeric material, such as but not limited to, a bladder or membrane made of polyurethane or silicone rubber, for example." (p. 42, lines 3-6); "... distal piston head 30 is inflated until it is in contact with body lumen 20, such that a seal between piston head 30 and lumen 20 is formed. Pressurized fluid is then introduced via first passageway 14, producing a larger pressure on the proximal face of piston head 30 than on the distal face of piston head 30, resulting in a net force acting to move piston head 30 distally." (p. 46, lines 16-20);

Claims 389-390 are supported in the description of the PCT as follows: "System 10 may be inserted in the rectum with piston heads 30 and 46 initially deflated to facilitate insertion. Distal piston head 30 may then be gently inflated until it expands to the inner wall of body lumen 20." (p. 45, lines 9-11); and

Claims 391-392 are supported in the description of the PCT as follows: "...an inflatable piston head coupled to a distal portion of the carrier, and adapted to form a pressure seal with a wall of the lumen after the carrier has been inserted into the lumen;" (p. 33, lines 16-18); "In an embodiment, the piston head is adapted to be in direct contact with the wall of the GI tract." (p. 33, lines 26-27)

No new matter has been added.

Notice of allowance of the present application is respectfully requested.

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Respectfully submitted,

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